

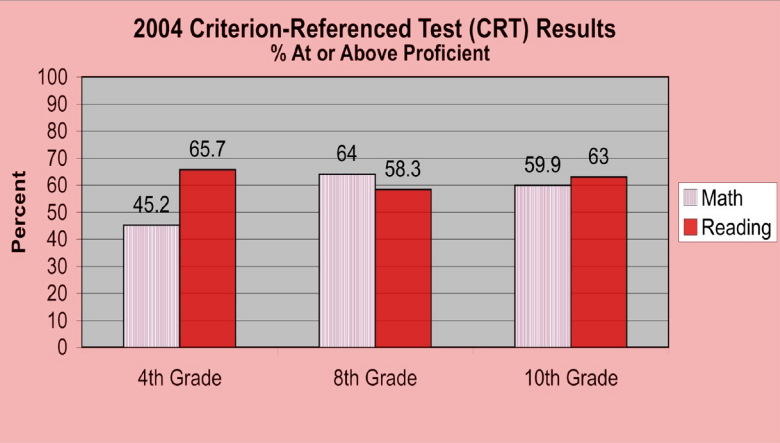
## Assessment

### Test Scores

	2002		2003		2004	
	MT	Natl.	MT	Natl.	MT	Natl.
SAT*						
Verbal	541	504	538	507	537	508
Math	547	516	543	519	539	518
ACT**	21.7	20.8	21.7	20.8	21.7	20.9

\*Scholastic Aptitude Test—High Score 800. In 2004, 29% of Montana graduating seniors took the SAT.

\*\*American College Testing Program—High Score 36. In 2004, 56% of Montana graduating seniors took the ACT.

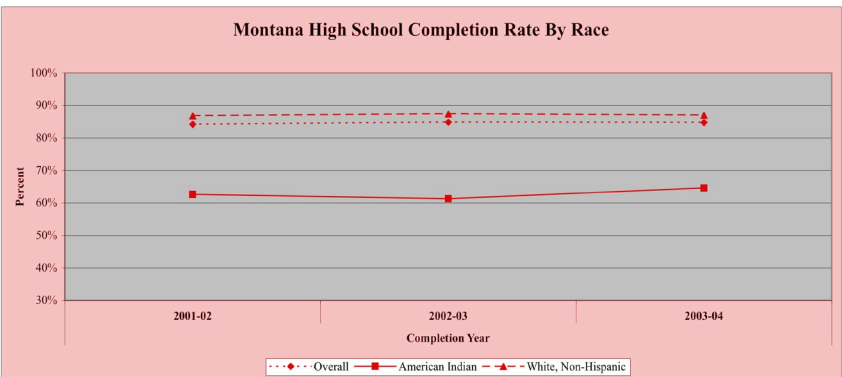


The results listed here are from the first year Montana students took the CRT in the 4th, 8th and 10th grades measuring progress toward state standards in reading and math.

### High School Graduates 2004

High school graduates 2004	10,500
GED* recipients (ages 16 to 19)	1,257

\*General Educational Development



High school completion rates have been relatively stable over the past three years for all races. The gap between American Indian students and all students combined is 20 percentage points. The gap between white students and American Indian students is approximately 25 percentage points.

## Dear Friends:

I am proud of Montana's education system and honored to be leading efforts to build a bright future for our students. We have remarkable resources and talent in our communities, schools, and families. Our excellent public education is built on educators, students, parents, business and community members working together to invest in Montana's future. I am pleased to present the informative "Facts About Montana Education." To learn more about K-12 education in Montana, I invite you to visit our Web site at [www.opi.mt.gov](http://www.opi.mt.gov).

Linda McCulloch, State Superintendent

## About the Big Sky State

- Population: 902,195 (2000 Census); 926,865 (2004 Estimate)
- Size: 147,046 square miles (fourth largest state)
- Population density: 6.2 per square mile (2000 Census)
- Racial makeup: White 90.6%, American Indian 6.2%, Hispanic 2%, Asian .6%, Black .3%, Other .6% (2000 Census)
- School makeup: White 84.5%, American Indian 11.3%, Hispanic 2.3%, Asian .9%, Black .8%, Pacific Islander .2%
- 570 miles long, 315 miles wide
- Western one-third mountainous and timbered
- Eastern two-thirds plains with occasional mountains
- Elevation range: 1,820 to 12,799 feet above sea level
- Borders three Canadian provinces and four states
- Headwaters for two major rivers—Missouri and Columbia
- Seven Indian reservations
- Primary industries: agriculture, services, government (including education), retail trade

### For more Information about Montana, contact:

- [www.discoveringmontana.com](http://www.discoveringmontana.com) • Travel Montana (406) 841-2870
- The Census & Economic Information Center (406) 841-2740 (<http://ceic.commerce.mt.gov/>)

### For more school data:

- [www.opi.mt.gov/measurement/](http://www.opi.mt.gov/measurement/)
- [www.opi.mt.gov/reportcard/](http://www.opi.mt.gov/reportcard/)

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## FACTS ABOUT

# MONTANA EDUCATION



Linda McCulloch, State Superintendent

Montana Office of Public Instruction

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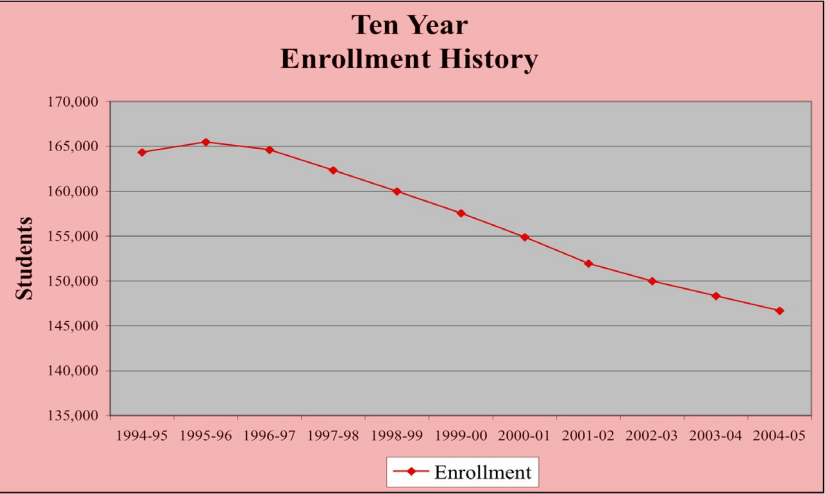
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[www.opi.mt.gov](http://www.opi.mt.gov)

August 2005

Montana Public School Enrollment			
	<u>2003-04</u>	<u>2004-05</u>	<u>% change</u> <u>2004-05</u>
Elementary			
Prekindergarten	659	757	
Kindergarten	10,146	10,205	
Grades 1-6	64,734	63,414	
Grades 7-8	24,333	23,971	
Ungraded	<u>104</u>	<u>110</u>	
Total Elementary	99,976	98,457	-1.5%
High Schools			
Grades 9-12	47,961	47,786	
Ungraded	<u>231</u>	<u>309</u>	
Total High School	48,192	48,095	- 0.2%
State-Funded Schools*			
Elementary (PreK-8)	42	33	
High School (9-12)	<u>146</u>	<u>120</u>	
Total State-Funded Schools	188	153	- 18.6%
Total Public School Enrollment	148,356	146,705	- 1.1%
* The state-funded schools are Pine Hills School, Riverside School and the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind.			



Montana enrollment peaked in the 1995-96 school year. Since then, enrollment has decreased by over 18,000 students. The enrollment decrease is due to the decrease in Montana live births. In 2002, Montana had one of the lowest birth rates in the country. The number of live births started to increase in 2000 and projections have the number rising in the next ten years. While enrollment has been declining as a whole, American Indian enrollment has increased by 5 percent over the past 10 years. After declining for seven years, kindergarten enrollment began increasing again in 2003-04.

School Size and Enrollment 2004-05				
School Size	No. of Schools	Percent of Schools	Enrollment	Percent of Enrollment
>500	50	6%	45,208	31%
250 to 499	161	19%	56,025	38%
100 to 249	164	19%	27,446	19%
50 to 99	145	17%	10,440	7%
<50	332	39%	7,586	5%
	852	100%	146,705	100%

Poverty Indicators			
Poverty Indicators	MT	National	Rank
Age 5-17 in Families in Poverty*	16.70%	15.30%	37th
Percent Eligible for Free/ Reduced Lunch**	31.90%	N/ A	23rd
*US Census Bureau, 2002			
**Common Core of Data, 2002-03 School Year			

<b>Public School Districts</b>	<u>2004-05</u>			
K-12 districts	55			
Combined elementary (joint board)	105			
Combined high school (joint board)	105			
Single districts (166 Elem; 5 HS)	171			
Nonoperating and annexed districts	8			
State-funded districts	<u>2</u>			
<b>Total School Districts</b>	<b>446</b>			
<b>School Data</b>	<u>2004-05</u>			
Elementary Schools	455			
Middle, 7&8, Junior High Schools	222			
High Schools	<u>175</u>			
<b>Total Schools</b>	<b>852</b>			
<b>Nonpublic School Enrollment (Self-Reported)</b>				
	<i>2002-03</i>	<i>2003-04</i>	<i>2004-05</i>	<i>% of Total Enrollment</i>
Private	8,286	7,818	8,164	5.1
Home school	<u>3,788</u>	<u>3,917</u>	<u>3,971</u>	<u>2.5</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,074</b>	<b>11,735</b>	<b>12,135</b>	<b>7.6</b>

Certified Staff (Full-Time Equivalent)	<u>2003-04</u>	<u>2004-05</u>
Teachers - Classroom, Title I, Special Education	10,300	10,224
Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents	145	143
Principals and Assistant Principals	504	503
Other - Central Office Program Coordinators	161	168
Specialists - Library, Guidance Counselors	788	796
Special Education Directors, School Psychologists	<u>87</u>	<u>91</u>
Total Certified Staff FTE	11,985	11,925
Instructional Paraprofessionals	<u>1,870</u>	<u>1,917</u>
Total Certified and Instructional Staff	13,855	13,842
Student/Teacher Ratio		
	<u>2001-02</u>	<u>2002-03</u>
Common Core of Data, 2002-03 School Year		
Montana average	14.9	14.5
National average	15.9	15.9

